(iv) whose agricultural lands have been partly acquired (priority IV).

Within the above priorities, the date of award determines the inter-se priority of the applicants.

Release of gratuity and P.F. by B.C.C.L.

7337. SHRI GAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any data of such labours working in B.C.C.L. who have not yet received their gratuity and P.F. after their retirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For reasons stated hereinafter.1862 retired workers of BCCL are yet to receive full settlement of gratuity as on 9-5-94. Provident fund claims in respect of 162 workers who have retired from BCCL are pending settlements as on 31-5-94.

(c) The gratuity payments have been delayed mainly due to pendency of vigilance enquiry/disciplinary action, disputes relating to quantum of gratuity entitlement, non-submission in time of application by the claimants or their nominees and non-payment of company dues.

The reason for delay in settlement of provident fund dues include furnishing of inadequate and incomplete personal data, missing credits for certain periods and non-reconciliation with suspense accounts.

Unexploited Coal reserves

7338. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 17,212 million tonnes of coal is locked in underground mines.

(b) if so, what is the planning of the coal industry to develop these reserves in Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans;

(c) whether it is also a fact that if these reserves are not developed either in Eighth or Ninth Five Year Plans heavy capital cost will make the exploitation of the said underground coal reserves uneconomical; and

(d) if so, what will happen to these reserves of coal which will remain unexploited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir. Out of total gross coal reserves of 193777.13 million tonnes (as on 1-1-1993), the proved reserves of Gondwana Coals were 64595 million tonnes, out of which 17212 million tonnes were estimated to be exploitable by underground mining.

(b) Out of 303 million tonnes of projected coal production at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, 80.91 million tonnes is planned from underground mines of Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited. The indications for the terminal year of the Ninth Five Year Plan to be firmed up later are 105 million tonnes from underground mines of Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited.

(c) and (d) Exploitation of these reserves has been taken up as per the production programme approved by the Planning Commission and the investments have been provided accordingly for the Eighth Five Year Plan period.